



**Kingston Conservation Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Kingston City Hall, Date: August 9, 2016
6:30-8:30pm**

Council Members Elizabeth Broad, Lorraine Farina, Emilie Hauser (Vice-Chair), Lynn Johnson, Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Julie Noble (Chair), Casey Schwarz

- I. **Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** The chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:40PM. No guests were present.
- II. **Review and Approval July 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion made by Lynn and seconded by Casey, the July 2016 Meeting Minutes as amended were unanimously approved by the council.
- III. **Old Business**
 1. **Natural Resources Inventory (NRI):** John Mickelson a private consultant from Montgomery NY, who is presently working on an Open Space Plan for the Towns of Rochester and Wawarsing was chosen by the NRI selection committee composed of Julie Noble, Emilie Hauser, Kevin McEvoy, Krista Micelli and Brenna Robinson. Behan Associates was also interviewed as a finalist. John will need to be provided with the maps and will need an orientation review with Matt Akin & Krista Micelli participation discussion. John will provide custom prioritization criteria for the open space index in addition to the NRI work and will provide data in kml format for use with Google Earth. A meeting with the consultant is to be scheduled.
 2. **Recycling Enforcement and Code Review:** Julie reported that she met with Jean Edwards, code enforcement officer at the DPW and discussed recycling compliance issues and procedures. Julie gave Jean some recommendations on compliance. The CAC discussed various compliance and enforcements and educational options but no motions were made and no resolutions were presented.
 3. **Vessel Anchorage on Hudson River:** One of the CAC members reported out on the August 8th meeting of the Ulster County Energy and Environment Committee legislature regarding the proposed Coast Guard rule change regarding vessel anchorages on the Hudson River with representatives from the Maritime Association of the Port of NY and NJ and Riverkeeper presenting. It was mentioned that the present official anchorage is at Hyde Park and that the effect of the rulemaking would be to give unofficial anchorages recognized status. Locally this would include three areas known as the Kingston Hub (the Kingston South Flats, Port Ewen and Big Rock). Riverkeeper discussed temporary emergency anchorage versus new official anchorages as well as scarring of the river bottom by anchors and anchor chains and habitat issues including two endangered species, shortnose and Atlantic sturgeon, the threat presented by crude oil transportation to the river and our communities together with light & noise pollution. The Council discussed the effect on anchorages on Kingston Point Beach.
<https://www.regulations.gov/docketBrowser?rpp=25&so=DESC&sb=commentDueDate&po=0&dct=SR%2BO&D=USCG-2016-0132>
 4. **Plastic Bags:** Plastic Bag legislation was on the agenda for the Ulster County Legislature Energy & Environment committee held on August 8th with reference to Tom Konrad from Marbletown Environmental Commission and Jordan Christiansen of Citizens Campaign for the Environment.

IV. New Business:

Hudson River Watershed Alliance: The CAC has been invited to attend a source water workshop September 21 at Cornell Cooperative extension. Link is below

<https://www.nycharities.org/Events/EventLevels.aspx?ETID=9289>

V. Announcements/Communications/Events

1. Kingston Zoning: Kevin reported on discussions with Pace Law on suggestions for zoning drafting to implement items from the Climate Action Plan into the zoning changes expected to result from the Kingston 2025 Comprehensive Plan.

2. CFA Grant: Rondout shoreline stabilization application was discussed.

VI. Reports/Updates

1. Wood Burning/Air Quality Committee (Lorraine Farina): Lorraine discussed the American Lung Association public service sheet on outdoor burning and her discussion with Sander Bonvell who provided information regarding hand-held devices for measurement of particulate matter in a setting such as chimney emissions, as measured from the property line which is less expensive than ones used in industrial settings. It was indicated that there are two types of devices, the choice of which is determined by size of the particulate matter the unit can measure. Lorraine also discussed other measures with regards to wood burning including (a) taking photos and/or videos of smoke; (b) reviewing whether the use of “dense smoke” in the Kingston code may be subjective and inconsistent as less restrictive than NYS DEC section 211; (c) considering how smoke measuring equipment would be useful for the Fire Dept.; (d) having witnesses accompany Fire Dept on calls concerning smoke; (e) preventing unhealthful fumes and smoke emissions with a clear definition of smoke pollution established within the code which could be revised if necessary; (f) using Method 9 consultant readings to measure smoke opacity. As next steps, Joe Safford and Tom Tiano from Building Safety Division will be invited back in September. Lorraine provided the following links below:

DEC section 211, which sets opacity standards and air pollution prohibitions:

[https://govt.westlaw.com/nycrr/Document/I4e8edbcdcd1711dda432a117e6e0f345?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=\(sc.Default\)](https://govt.westlaw.com/nycrr/Document/I4e8edbcdcd1711dda432a117e6e0f345?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default))

[https://govt.westlaw.com/nycrr/Document/I4e8edbd0cd1711dda432a117e6e0f345?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=\(sc.Default\)&bhcp=1](https://govt.westlaw.com/nycrr/Document/I4e8edbd0cd1711dda432a117e6e0f345?viewType=FullText&originationContext=documenttoc&transitionType=CategoryPageItem&contextData=(sc.Default)&bhcp=1)

2. Kingston Sidewalk Task Force (Lorraine Farina): No report this month. Task Force is to meet in the fall.

3. Planning Board Liaison (Casey Schwarz): Casey provided an update on the Irish Cultural Center.

4. Public Safety Liaison (Lynn Johnson) Lynn reported that she updated the Public Safety Committee on CAC recent activities.

5. Climate Smart Kingston (Julie Noble, Betta Broad): It was reported that the August meeting date may be changed. Betta reported on the Sustainable Saturday electrical vehicle event now to be held at the County Building parking lot on September 17 with participants to include, but not limited to, the Department of Environment, Solarize, Sustainable Hudson Valley, RUPCO, the Climate Smart Kingston Commission as partners who will provide support logos. It was further reported that Mike D’Arcy wants to organize another residential energy working group.

6. Ulster County Climate Smart Committee (Betta Broad:) Betta discussed an upcoming PACE (Property Assessed Clean Energy) financing event and CCA working group meeting.

7. Ulster County Environmental Management Council Liaison (*Emilie Hauser*): No meeting to report.

8. Solid Waste Management Improvement Commission (*Julie Noble*): The Report deadline has been extended until October.

9. Sea Level Rise Implementation Learning Group (*Julie Noble*): Julie reported that the contracts are signed and that a planning meeting is to be held shortly.

Climate Adaptive Design Studio (*Julie Noble*): Island Dock/Block Park has been chosen for the first location for the climate adaptive design Studio fall semester for Cornell University. A meeting with Robert Iannucci, Island Dock property owner, is anticipated. The second semester may include property along the East Strand.

IV. **Adjournment:** Upon motion made by Lynn and seconded by Casey, the Council members voted to adjourn the meeting at 9pm.

NOTE THAT ALL WEBSITE LINKS ARE FOR GENERAL REFERENCE AND THAT THE CAC MAKES NO REPRESENTATIONS REGARDING SAME

Mission: Ensure the conservation of the City of Kingston's natural resources and the enhancement and protection of its environment while fostering unified action on environmental matters.